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Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for July 2006

Key Words

MM5108, CR5108, R959CP, Laboratory, NCD, Software, 83704

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare carriers and fiscal intermediaries (FIs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services provided for Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is July 1, 2006.
- The Implementation date is July 3, 2006.
- The National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services were developed by the laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee and published as a final rule on November 23, 2001.
- Subsequently, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) contracted for nationally uniform software to be developed and incorporated into its shared systems so that laboratory claims subject to one of the 23 NCDs can be processed uniformly throughout the nation effective January 1, 2003.
- The laboratory edit module for the NCDs is updated quarterly (as necessary) to reflect coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process. (See the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* (Pub.100-4), Chapter 16, §120.2; <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c16.pdf>.)
- These changes are a result of coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs, and several of the listed changes correct Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes to reflect the current CPT update.
- CR5108 informs Medicare carriers and FIs about changes in the laboratory NCD code lists for July 2006 that require updating of the laboratory edit module.

- The key change being made to the NCD code lists for July 2006 is that CPT code 83704 (Quantitation of lipoprotein particle numbers and lipoprotein particles subclasses) is being added to the list of HCPCS/CPT codes covered by Medicare for the Lipids Testing NCD.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/mm5108.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R959CP.pdf>